

Incorporating non-CO₂ climate forcers into state climate planning,

Ellen Baum, Clean Air Task Force

In the US, the state role in climate stabilization is becoming increasingly important, and state actions are expected to play a major role in driving federal climate change solutions. Including the non-CO₂ climate forcers into climate planning expands the opportunities as states develop their goals. This presentation builds from a target of limiting temperature increase from today to no more than 1 degree C^o to prevent Dangerous Anthropogenic Interference. Accomplishing this means stabilizing atmospheric CO₂ at a maximum of 450 ppm between now and mid-century. If non-CO₂ climate forcers could be reduced by .8 to 1 W/m², then the CO₂ target could be 550 ppm, essentially requiring flattening out CO₂ emissions to today's level. On a global basis, this .8 to 1 W/m² requires large reductions from today's concentrations and emissions in nitrous oxide, methane and black carbon. In the Ohio Climate Roadmap, an action plan is being developed that tries to examine if and how Ohio can meet its share of the non-CO₂ targets and thus ease the burden for CO₂ reductions. The Connecticut State Climate plan has already included reductions in black carbon to meet its target.